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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/941,249	08/28/2001	David Kingsley Clark	AUS9-2001-0722-US1	5909
7590	08/23/2004		EXAMINER	
Joseph T. Van Leeuwen P.O. Box 81641 Austin, TX 78708-1641			STREGE, JOHN B	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2625	
DATE MAILED: 08/23/2004				

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/941,249	Applicant(s) CLARK ET AL.
Examiner John B Strege	Art Unit 2625	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
 - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).

Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 28 August 2001.

2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-21 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 1-21 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on 28 August 2001 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) All b) Some * c) None of:
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 2.
4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____ .
5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) Other: ____ .

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1-4, 8-11, 15-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cumbers USPN 6,554,705 in view of Musgrave et al. USPN 6,202,151 (hereinafter "Musgrave").

Claim 1 discloses, "a method of processing a biometric input, said method comprising: receiving the biometric input from a biometric receiving device; computing a biometric signature corresponding to the biometric input; comparing the biometric signature to one or more stored biometric signatures; determining a match based on the comparing; identifying an action based on the determination; and performing the identified action."

Cumbers discloses a passive biometric system for identifying and tracking people anonymously in a commercial or business environment (col. 1 lines 6-10). Upon entering a predesignated area, biometric information capable of positively identifying the customer is taken by the establishment by any known technical method (col. 3 lines 60-63). One of these possible biometric methods is face recognition (col. 4 line 4). Cumbers does not explicitly disclose computing a biometric signature, however does

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disclose that the face in the image is isolated and data corresponding to unalterable features of the face such as spacings between eye pupils, mouth shape, configuration of the eyes, nose and mouth are highlighted (col. 7 lines 5-8). As seen in figure 4 a library of stored customers biometric data is searched for matching biometric data (col. 4 lines 28-30 step 108). If a match is determined then information is retrieved about the customer from a matching file (step 112) and if this information is negative information then a message is sent to security (step 114), or if it is determined that the person is a regular customer an alert may be sent to an employee to give the customer special attention (step 122 col. 4 lines 62-67).

As stated Cumbers does not explicitly disclose computing a biometric signature.

Musgrave discloses a system for making secure communications (col. 1 lines 13-15) and states that the combination of cryptographic techniques, including public key cryptography, and the use of digital certificates provides greater intergrity, privacy and a degree of authentication for on-line electronic transactions which instills a greater level ofconfidence in the electronic services consumer (col. 1 lines 60-65). To go about doing this Musgrave discloses taking biometric data (26 of figure3) and using a hash function (34) to create a biometric certificate (38). This biometric certificate is analogous to a biometric signature.

Cumbers and Musgrave are analogous art because they are from the same field of endeavor of biometric identification for commercial purposes.

At the time of the invention it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to combine Cumbers and Musgrave to form a biometric signature from the

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biometric data. The motivation for doing so would be to make the information of the user more secure. Thus it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine Cumbers and Musgrave to obtain the invention as specified in claim 1.

Regarding claim 2, as discussed with Cumbers based on the match of the user an alert may be sent to the police, or to personnel to give attention to the customer. Here the alert can be read as a message, and the proper recipient (the police, or the personnel) is identified. It is inherent that a message is prepared since a message could not be sent if it were not prepared.

Regarding claims 3-4, Musgrave discloses (col. 2 lines 18-27, col. 4 lines 14-22, and col. 5 lines 27-35) that the authentication certificate is encrypted using the private key to generate a digital signature. The digital signature is then appended to the authenticating certificated and the message, such as an electronic transaction, for transmission over a network.

Claim 8 is similar to claim 1 with the added limitations of processors, memory, and storage devices accessible by the processors. The remaining limitations have already been discussed. Cumbers discloses a central computer system (106 figure 4) that has processors, memory, and storage (col. 4 lines 15-39). Thus the same arguments used for claim 1 apply equally to claim 8.

Claims 9-11 are similar to claims 2-4, thus the same arguments used for claims 2-4 apply equally to claims 9-11.

Claims 15-18 are similar to claims 1-4, thus the same arguments used for claims 1-4 apply equally to claims 15-18.

3. Claims 5-7, 12-14, and 19-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cumbers USPN 6,554,705 in view of Musgrave et al. USPN 6,202,151 and further in view of Maeno USPN 5,283,644.

Regarding claim 5, as discussed Cumbers discloses identifying a visual image of the person corresponding to the biometric signature, and sending a message. However, neither Cumbers nor Musgrave explicitly disclose including an image in the message.

Maeno discloses a crime prevention monitor system that uses facial recognition to decide if an intruder is present (as stated at least in the abstract). As seen in figure 4, if the person is detected to be an intruder a report with a picture of the individual is sent to the police.

Cumbers, Musgrave, and Maeno are analogous art because they are from the same field of endeavor of using biometrics for commercial purposes.

At the time of the invention it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to combine Cumbers, Musgrave, and Maeno to include a picture of the person along with the alert. The motivation for doing so would be to allow the security to know what the person looks like to apprehend the suspect more easily. Thus it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine Cumbers, Musgrave, and Maeno to obtain the invention as specified in claim 5.

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Regarding claims 6-7, Maeno discloses that there are a plurality of monitor regions (col. 2 lines 50-54) and as seen if figure 4 the exact location of the person is disclosed (listed as features: president room located rightward deep from entrance...). It is well known in the art that a plurality of regions can be covered either by moving the biometric receiving device about (in this case a camera) or by having multiple cameras and thus the examiner declares official notice. It would be obvious to use multiple biometric devices so that different rooms of a building could be monitored, instead of only one moveable camera.

Claims 12-14 are similar to claims 5-7, thus the same arguments used for the rejection of claims 5-7 apply equally to claims 12-14.

Claims 19-21 are similar to claims 5-7, thus the same arguments used for the rejection of claims 5-7 apply equally to claim 19-21.

Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to John B Strege whose telephone number is (703) 305-8679. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday between the hours of 8-5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Bhavesh Mehta can be reached on (703) 308-5246. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

JS



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